

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 07761 201411Z  
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SSM-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01  
SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 OMB-01 COME-00 EB-08 LAB-04  
SIL-01 /096 W

-----002621 201502Z /72

R 201246Z JUN 78  
FM AME BASSY TEL AVIV  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3724  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM  
USMISSION USUN NY  
USMISSION SINAI  
USICA WASHDC

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E. O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINS IS  
SUBJ: PUBLIC OPINION POLL IN JERUSALEM

1. POLLSTER HANOCH SMITH, AN EXPATRIATE AMERICAN, HAS  
JUST COMPLETED A POLL FOR MAYOR OF JERUSALEM TEDDY KOLLEK.  
THE POLL INDICATES THAT KOLLEK'S POPULARITY REMAINS HIGH,  
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PAGE 02 TEL AV 07761 201411Z

WHEREAS LABOR PARTY SUPPORT IN THE JERUSALEM AREA CONTINUES  
TO DECLINE.

2. IN CONJUNCTION WITH THIS POLL SMITH ALSO PROBED THE  
CURRENT TREND OF POLITICAL SENTIMENT AND MADE THE FOLLOWING  
COMMENTS:

(A) DISILLUSIONMENT WITH LIKUD IS CONSIDERABLY STRONGER AMONG ASHKENAZIS THAN AMONG SEPHARDIS. A SEVEN PERCENT DECLINE OF LIKUD SUPPORT IS MAINLY DUE TO ASHKENAZI DEFECTIONS.

(B) SOME TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT OF PERSONS ASKED SAID THEY DID NOT KNOW HOW THEY WOULD VOTE IF ELECTIONS WERE HELD TOMORROW. THIS IS TEN PERCENT HIGHER THAN THE UNDECIDED CATEGORY BEFORE THE MAY 1977 ELECTION.

(C) SEPHARDI SUPPORT FOR LIKUD IS NOW FIFTY PERCENT AND THE REST EVENLY DIVIDED BETWEEN NRP AND LABOR.

(D) POLITICAL INDECISION WAS MARKEDLY LOWER AMONG SEPHARDIS THAN AMONG ASHKENAZIS. SMITH FELT THAT THE MARKEDLY DIFFERENT ATTITUDES OF SEPHARDIS AND ASHKENAZIS POINTS TO A TREND TOWARD COMMUNAL POLARIZATION.

(E) SEPHARDI SUPPORT FOR LIKUD WAS BASED PRINCIPALLY ON FOREIGN AND DEFENSE POLICY AND PERSONAL LOYALTY TO BEGIN. SEPHARDI TRADITION FAVORING A STRONG PERSONALITY REMAINS HIGH.

(F) DISSATISFACTION WITH GOVERNMENT'S SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC POLICY WAS NOTABLE AMONG ALL GROUPS, POINTING TOWARD INCREASING STRAINS IN THE FUTURE OVER INTERNAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 TEL AV 07761 201411Z

ISSUES BETWEEN LIBERALS AND HERUT.

(G) EIGHTY PERCENT OF FORMER DMC VOTERS HAVE NOW MOVED INTO THE UNDECIDED CATEGORY.

3. IN INTERPRETING SEPHARDI ATTITUDES, SMITH COMMENTED THAT FORMERLY THERE HAD BEEN SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SEPHARDIS AND ASHKENAZIS ON PEACE AND TERRITORIAL ISSUES, BECAUSE THE CHANCE OF PEACE REMAINED REMOTE. HOWEVER, SINCE THE SADAT VISIT THE POSSIBILITY OF PEACE HAS BECOME MORE REAL. THIS AROUSED FIRST GREATER HOPE AND THEN GREATER ANXIETY AMONG SEPHARDIS THAN AMONG ASHKENAZIS. SEPHARDIS FEAR THAT THEIR VOICE MIGHT BE IGNORED IN THE PEACE PROCESS AND THAT CONCESSIONS TO ARABS COULD JEOPARDIZE THEIR SECURITY MORE THAN THAT OF ASHKENAZIS. THE NOTION THAT SEPHARDIS WOULD PLAY A BIGGER ROLE IN THE POLITICAL, DIPLOMATIC AND ECONOMIC LIFE OF ISRAEL FOLLOWING PEACE WITH SADAT IS PRINCIPALLY LIMITED TO SEPHARDI INTELLECTUALS. IN THE MEANTIME, SEPHARDI ANIMOSITY TOWARDS ARABS IS INCREASING. THIS WAS REFLECTED IN A HIGH PERCENTAGE OF SEPHARDI CRITICISM OF KOLLEK'S POLICY TOWARDS ARABS IN EAST JERUSALEM. LEWIS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MAYOR, REPORTS, PUBLIC OPINION POLLS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978TELAV07761  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PUBLIC OPINION POLL IN JERUSALEM  
**TAGS:** PINS, IS, (KOLLEK, TEDDY)  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014